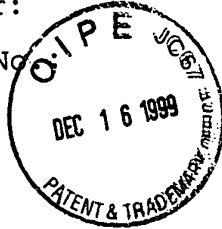


IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Inventor: NOBUTSUGU FUJINO
Serial No: 08/999,308
Filed: December 29, 1997
Title: COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM AND
COMMUNICATIONS METHOD
Examiner: G. ENG
Group Art Unit: 2743



TC 2700 MAIL ROOM

DEC 20 1999

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AF/2743
7/B
12/29/99
T.R.R.
(S.E.)

December 15, 1999

Box AF
Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D. C. 20231

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.116

DEAR SIR:

In response to the Office Action dated September 15, 1999, the period for responding thereto having been set to expire on December 15, 1999, please enter the following amendment to place the subject case in condition for allowance or in the alternative in better form for consideration on appeal.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows:

Any fee due with this paper, not fully covered by an enclosed check, may be charged on Deposit Acct. No. 08-1634

Filed by Express Mail
(Receipt No. EL52238636945)
on 12-15-99
pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.10.
by *[Signature]*